

ROOSEVELT IN PUBLIC SERVICE SINCE YOUTH

Assemblyman and Candidate for Mayor Before He Was Thirty.

WANTED THE PRESIDENCY But Wanted to Be Elected and Dreading Succeeding McKinley.

Col. Theodore Roosevelt was born at 28 East Twentieth street, New York, on October 27, 1858, his father being James J. Roosevelt, a son of an old New York family, who traced his genealogy back along a long line of old Dutch stock.

Col. Roosevelt was graduated from Harvard in 1880 and turned to the study of law with his uncle Robert B. Roosevelt. He was barely 23 years old when he was elected to the Assembly, where he served three years. He then described himself as an "Independent Republican."

In 1884 he was sent to Chicago as the chairman of the New York delegation to the national convention, where he opposed the nomination of James G. Blaine; but when Mr. Blaine was made the candidate Mr. Roosevelt took off his coat and worked for him with a will.

During the following two years he gained much of his practical experience as a ranchman in the West. He became an expert rider in the bad lands of Dakota and learned much about cow punches, ranchmen and the pioneers of civilization which he put into his books, "The Making of the West," "The Winning of the West" and "The Ranch Life and the Hunting Trail," books that are considered classics in their way.

In 1886 Mr. Roosevelt was back in New York as the Republican candidate for Mayor. His running mates were Abram S. Hewitt, Democrat, and Henry George, Socialist. Mr. Roosevelt was the third man in the race but his vote was the largest in proportion to the number of votes cast, a Republican majority candidate for New York had ever received up to that time.

Mr. Roosevelt next got into the limelight as a hunter of big game. He went to the Rockies, where he tracked the grizzly bear to its lair and also hunted moose. He had a high admiration for the bull moose even in those days.

In later years when he arrived at Montauk at the close of the Spanish war somebody asked him how he felt and he threw back his chest and replied: "Bully! I feel as strong as a bull moose."

In 1890 President Harrison appointed Mr. Roosevelt United States Civil Service Commissioner. He had become very much interested in civil service reform in previous years. He was retained in the service by President Cleveland when the latter was elected the second time.

Mr. Roosevelt resigned as Civil Service Commissioner in 1895 and accepted an appointment as a Police Commissioner in New York under the administration of Mayor Strong. He was made president of the board and a campaign of publicity reorganization was inaugurated that is still talked about by the old men on the force.

Among other things Mr. Roosevelt made up his mind to get rid of Thomas Byrnes, then Chief of Police, and ten minutes after Mr. Byrnes was summoned before Mr. Roosevelt and his colleagues the famous chief of detectives turned in his resignation.

Mr. Roosevelt was nominated by President McKinley on April 6, 1897, to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy and on April 17 he left his resignation to Mayor Strong as a Police Commissioner.

Mr. Roosevelt early saw that there was every likelihood that there would be a mixup with Spain as the result of the troubles in Cuba and began right away to prepare the Navy Department for what he believed was coming. He pushed repairs on warships with his characteristic vigor and left nothing undone to secure a sound efficiency on the ships and among the men in the event of war.

When the war came Mr. Roosevelt resigned his position as Assistant Secretary of the Navy and tried to get an appointment on Gen. Lee's staff. Then the idea struck him to organize the "Rough Riders" and a week before his old friends the plains and cowboys and others, begged for chances to become "Roosevelt Rough Riders."

They were mustered in at San Antonio, Tex., and Roosevelt went to the front with them. He did not consider that he had had sufficient military experience to command a regiment and took second command under his old friend Dr. Leonard Wood.

The Rough Riders made a name for themselves in the jungle fight of Las Cruces and the celebrated charge up San Juan Hill.

When the Colonel got back to New York after the war his name was on every Republican tongue as the next candidate for Governor. He was elected and became the candidate and was elected.

He was nominated for Vice-President with William McKinley in November, 1900, and on September 14, 1901, he became President as the successor to the assassinated McKinley.

He was elected President in the fall of 1901 and served until March 4, 1909, having in the meantime been instrumental in securing the nomination of William H. Taft.

Then came his celebrated hunting trip to the wilds of Montana, which was followed by a triumphant return, when he received ovations never before accorded an American citizen in various countries through which he travelled on his return home.

Back in the days before the Colonel ever had any thought that he would succeed to the Presidency as the result of an assassin's bullet he said that he intended to do the very best he could to obtain the nomination for President.

When it was believed that President McKinley had a chance to recover Mr. Roosevelt said:

"To become President in that way means nothing to me. Aside from the horror of having President McKinley die there is the additional horror of becoming his successor in that way."

"The thing that appeals to me is to be elected President. That is the way I intend to honor to come, if I am ever to receive it."

The clash between Col. Roosevelt and his friend President Taft, resulting in the break in their friendship of many years, having in the meantime been instrumental in securing the nomination of William H. Taft.

Col. Roosevelt married in 1883 Miss Alice Lee, who died. He married again in 1895 Miss Edith Kermit Carow. He has four sons and one daughter.

NEWS OF THE SHOOTING APPEALS FLEET DINERS

Leaders of Progressive Party Besieged for Details of Attack.

GREAT CHEERS FOR TAFT Those in Corridor Hail Him Spontaneously When He First Appears.

President Taft sat at the right hand of Mayor Gaynor last night at the great dinner which the city gave in honor of the Atlantic fleet.

Everywhere were the blue and gold uniforms of the officers, from Rear Admiral Osterhaus down to the youngest midship fresh from Annapolis, and everywhere were the words that if we've got to fight let's fight as well as we know how.

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The news spread through the room quickly. Little knots of naval officers and civilians dotted the area outside the circle of tables and all were asking one another what was the real story from Milwaukee.

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Presently Gen. Barry handed another slip back to the President, a request from the newspapers for a comment upon the attack upon the Colonel. Mr. Taft took out his pencil and wrote these lines:

"I am very sorry to hear of the assault upon Col. Roosevelt, and am glad to learn that no harm was done. W. H. T."

That was as near a comment as was made from the platform about the shooting in Milwaukee. In his speech President Taft kept himself closely to his notes. The only personal reference was to Mayor Gaynor, when he remarked that he couldn't talk politics, unless perhaps "he should go out and have a conference with Mr. Mayor about the Philippines."

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"Now as we always have a toast to the President, the first toast at banquets and to-night we can't do it most heartily because we have the President of the United States with us. [Great applause.] And perhaps it is no harm if I should say to you, that we are here, if I keep still and think a moment, not distracted by the voice of the political orator, nor even the voice of the Bull Moose, laughter and cheering over the may find great difficulty in saying in any particular President Taft has failed to discharge his duties with the highest fidelity to the integrity and the highest fidelity to the integrity of the United States."

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ROOSEVELT'S CAREER ONE OF FACING DANGER

Not the First Time He Has Known What It Was to Face Death.

BOMB ONCE SENT TO HIM Repeatedly in His Life He Has Been Assailed by Cranks.

The whistle of a bullet passing near him is no new experience in the life of Theodore Roosevelt, nor are dangers which might have had a fatal ending for him. From the days of his ranching experience in the West, where as cowboy and hunter he risked his life in herding cattle, in hunting wild beasts, in joining in poses to hunt down outlaws, through the days of his Police Commissionerhip in New York, his experience as a soldier in the Spanish war, down on through his term as Vice-President, President, hunter at large in Africa, he has been confronted by beasts and men who would do him harm.

In his own books of the West, Mr. Roosevelt has described some of his dangerous experiences and contemporary newspaper history records the rest.

He was a Police Commissioner in New York City in 1896, when on April 1 a somebody addressed to him a bomb which would explode the moment the wrapper of it was torn. A post office clerk caught this package as it went through his hands and sent it to headquarters, where it was not opened until it had been soaked in water. It was then found to contain explosives which would have maimed the person who opened the package.

As an Assistant Secretary of the Navy thereafter there are no recorded escapes and his experiences as Lieutenant-Colonel and then Colonel of the Rough Riders are sufficiently well known from his own graphic narrative. It was when he became President in succession to William McKinley that he found himself beset or threatened almost daily by some new danger.

The assassination of President McKinley developed a horde of cranks and homicidal lunatics who for the most part contented themselves with writing threatening letters until the guard about the President was reinforced several times and the Chief Executive himself went openly armed. There was no real danger, however, until the following year, in September, 1902, at Pittsburgh. Mass., an electric trolley car cut down a four-in-hand on which the President, Gov. Crane of Massachusetts, Secretary Cortelyou and the secret service guard were riding. William Craig, a secret service man, was killed and another grievously injured. The President was hurled some distance but received only superficial bruises. There was a scare in Philadelphia in the following November when a foreigner made a dash at the President, who was riding with Secretary Cortelyou in an open carriage. The Secretary and the secret service men covered the President and the man was overborne. He declared he only wanted to shake hands. He was unarmed.

A man whose name was given as Everett H. Leighton got into the executive offices at Washington January 7, 1902, and just before the President was to appear for his regular reception mentioned that he had a "matter he wanted to settle personally." They got him away and held him to test his sanity. He carried nothing more deadly than a small pocketknife.

The President went West in May, 1903, to hunt mountain lions. The day he was to reach Salt Lake City a heavily armed lunatic was picked up in the street. He announced openly that he was going to assassinate him. He was sent to an asylum.

Just before the President was to go to Syracuse, N. Y., in September, 1903, a man named Miller was arrested on the complaint of Mrs. Mary Smith of that city. He had informed her that he was going to assassinate the President.

Henry W. Wellbrenner, a half-witted farmer of Syosset, N. Y., invaded Sagamore Hill in September, 1903, at night. He was armed. Secret service men caught him within 100 feet of the grounds on which the President was sitting.

A Swede who gave his name as Peter Elliott and said he was from Lancaster, Pa., was arrested in the White House October 5, 1903. He was armed with a revolver, knife and scissors. He had sent letters and poems before that time and the police were looking for him. He fought desperately against capture and injured a secret service man before he was subdued.

The arrest of a Pole at Portland, Ore., on June 2, 1906, revealed the fact that five men had agreed to go to Washington and each try separately to kill the President. These men were all physical force anarchists, but no arrests were made as the men were reported to have fled across the border.

From time to time in 1903, '04, '05, '06 and '07 anarchist plots were reported from various centers of the country. One such came from Hazleton, Pa., in April, 1907; the year previous a similar conspiracy had been reported from Paterson, N. J. All of the plots were found to be dreams of the tellers of tales.

A demoted man appeared at Sagamore Hill in September, 1907, saying that he was going to compel President Roosevelt to collect \$100,000 from John D. Rockefeller. He had hinted something of dynamite, but he got away. A woman was arrested in Louisville, Ky., in May, 1908, as she was boarding a train on a Washington ticket. She announced calmly that she was going to kill the President. She was Carrie Adams, once a cook for a family in New Rochelle, N. Y.

In the following month while the President was fording Rock Creek, Washington, on a skittish horse the animal reared up and fell backward. The President freed his feet of the stirrups in time and landed standing up.

Under the end of his term Mr. Roosevelt undertook his famous trip to Africa, which concluded with fraternal visits to the great countries of Europe. He has standing the charge of a desperate rhinoceros and of lion killing in which a straight shot was all that stood between him and safety. The shot was made.

There has been no record of any attempt upon his life until last night since his retirement from official life. It was said that Socialists from all over the country had written to him denouncing the alleged theft of their platform by the Progressive party, but that actual threats were few and far between.

WASHINGTON HEARS NEWS. Thousands of Officials Anxious to Quarrel Over Telephone.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—The news of the attempt on the life of Theodore Roosevelt at Milwaukee reached a capital desert of officialdom just as it was about to retire.

Extra issues of an afternoon paper spread the news all about the city, though for more than an hour previous all the newspaper offices and the business headquarters of other cities had been in ferment.

Thousands of Government officials and others kept the newspaper telephones busy with inquiries regarding the shooting at the former President.

So meagre was the information available to Washington up to midnight, however, that there was little to be told.

WOOLWORTH BUILDING

2500 Broadway, Park Place to Barclay St. OFFICE LOCATION